

Message Text

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47

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /062 W

----- 023600

R 141053Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2110

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC NKP

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0269

D/PW FOR SIEVERTS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: A) VIENTIANE 0230

B) VIENTIANE 0231

1. AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY COLONEL VAUGHN, L/JCRC, MET JANUARY 14 WITH MINISTER OF DEFENSE SISOUK NA CHAMPASSAK TO RELATE THE RESULTS OF HIS MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER (REPORTED REFTELS) AND TO DISCUSS THE MIA ISSUE. SISOUK WAS SUBDUED WHEN AMBASSADOR MENTIONED HIS ATTEMPTS TO GET SOUVANNA TO CONCENTRATE ON MAJOR ISSUES AND SHARED AMBASSADOR'S OPINION THAT, IN SOUVANNA'S PRESENT SITUATION, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GET HIM TO VIEW PATHET LAO MANEUVERINGS OBJECTIVELY.

2. SISOUK PERKED UP WHEN DISCUSSION TURNED TO THE MIA ISSUE AND PARTICULARLY THE RELATIVELY ACCESSIBLE C-130 CRASHSITE EAST OF KHONGXEDON (SC 087086), SINCE THAT IS HIS OLD STAMPING GROUND. HE OFFERED TO SEND "HIS MEN" TO THE AREA TO EXAMINE THE WRECKAGE. AMBASSADOR
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CAUTIONED THAT RECOVERY OF REMAINS WAS A DIFFICULT JOB

REQUIRING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND MENTIONED THAT, WHILE CONFIRMATION OF THE LOCATION WOULD BE DESIRABLE, ACTUAL RECOVERY OF REMAINS SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE EXPERTS.

AMBASSADOR THEN PRESSED THE POINT THAT WE HAVE DALLIED LONG ENOUGH ON THIS QUESTION AND SUGGESTED THAT SISOUK PURSUE THE MATTER WITH SOUKAN VILAYSARN, PRESIDENT OF THE VIENTIANE SIDE OF THE JOINT COMMISSION. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT WE WERE READY TO BRIEF THE FAR GENERAL STAFF, MILITARY ATTACHES AND THE JCCIA ON THE TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN RECOVERY OPERATIONS. SISOUK AGREED TO DO WHAT HE COULD.

3. AMBASSADOR LEFT WITH SISOUK FOR HIS INFORMATION A COPY OF JANUARY 8 LETTER TO FONMIN PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ON THE CASE OF CHARLES DEAN, THE YOUNG AMERICAN DETAINED BY PATHET LAO.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINS, EMIN, PFOR, MOPS, PROP, LA, US, PATHET LAO, (SOUVANNA PHOUMA), (SISOUK NA CHAMPASSAK), (WHITEHOUSE, CHARLES S), (VAUGHN)
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